

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

<b>DEPARTMENTAL REGULATION</b>		<b>Number:</b> 1042-068
<b>SUBJECT:</b> AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES FOR TRADE -- APAC AND ATACs	<b>DATE:</b> April 12, 2001	
	<b>OPI:</b> FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE	

1 PURPOSE

The Secretary of Agriculture, after consultation with the U.S. Trade Representative on the need for a Trade Representative/Agriculture Advisory program, rechartered the following advisory committees on trade:

- a The Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee for Trade (APAC); and
- b The Agricultural Technical Advisory Committees for Trade (ATACs) including five ATACs for Trade in: 1) Animals and Animal Products; 2) Fruits and Vegetables; 3) Grains, Feed and Oilseeds; 4) Sweeteners; and 5) Tobacco, Cotton, and Peanuts.

These advisory committees are authorized by Sections 135(c)(1) and (2) of the Trade Act of 1974 (Pub. L. No. 93-618), as amended, and are intended to assure that representative elements of the private sector have an opportunity to make known their views to the U.S. Government on trade and trade policy matters. They provide a formal mechanism through which the U.S. Government may seek advice and information. The continuance of these committees is in the public interest in connection with the work of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. There are no other agencies or existing advisory committees which could supply this private sector input.

2 SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/CANCELLATION

- a Each committee will terminate 2 years from the date of filing, unless terminated earlier or renewed by proper authority by appropriate action.
- b Departmental Regulation 1042-68, dated March 31, 1999, is hereby superseded.

### 3 OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP

- a The APAC shall elect a Chairperson from the membership of the Committee. The Assistant to the Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), USDA, and the Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Liaison, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, shall be the Committee's Joint Executive Secretaries.
- b Each ATAC shall elect a Chairperson from the membership of the Committee. Each Committee shall have an Executive Secretary from FAS who shall be a full-time Designated Federal Officer (DFO) or employee. Each Committee shall not conduct any meetings in the absence of this DFO or his or her designee, and such DFO may adjourn the meeting when he or she determines it to be in the public interest.
- c Members of each Committee shall be appointed jointly by the Secretary of Agriculture and the U.S. Trade Representative. Membership shall be balanced and of sufficient size to be reasonably representative of the various agricultural interests of each Committee. Equal opportunity practices, in line with USDA policies, will be followed in all appointments to these committees. To ensure that the recommendations of each Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the USDA, membership should include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities. Members will serve at the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture and the U.S. Trade Representative.

### 4 DUTIES

The Committees will provide the Secretary of Agriculture and the U.S. Trade Representative with advice concerning: negotiating objectives and bargaining positions before entering into a trade agreement; the operation of an agreement once entered into; and other matters arising in connection with the administration of the trade policy of the United States.

The law also requires that each Committee affected shall meet at the conclusion of negotiations for each trade agreement entered into under the Trade Act of 1974 to provide a

report on such agreement to the President, to Congress, and to the U.S. Trade Representative.

## 5 ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS

Members of the Committees will serve without reimbursement of travel expenses or per diem allowances except where such policy would result in a failure to provide committee representation of necessary or desired interests.

Each Committee will require approximately one-fourth staff support year. Annual operating costs for each Committee are estimated to be:

- a For the APAC for Trade, FY 2000 actual cost is \$11,470 and FY 2001 estimated cost is \$14,120.

	FY 2000	FY 2001
b Animals and Animal	Estimated Cost	
Products .....	\$11,460	\$14,110
Fruits and Vegetables .....	" "	" "
Grains, Feed and Oilseeds ....	" "	" "
Sweeteners.....	" "	" "
Tobacco, Cotton, and		
Peanuts .....	" "	" "
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TOTAL	\$57,300	\$70,550

## 6 NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

Meetings of the Committees will be held as often as the Secretary of Agriculture and the U.S. Trade Representative deem necessary. Meetings of these Committees will not be open to the general public in accordance with Section 135(f)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974 unless otherwise determined because of the trade sensitivity and/or classified information.

7 REPORTS/SUPPORT

The committees will report to the President, to the Congress, and to the U.S. Trade Representative on the agreement. Administrative support for the operations of the Committees will be furnished by the FAS.

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